

Castleford Urban District Council.

Medical Officer's Report.

Sir

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
CASTLEFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report on the health of your District, for the year ending, December 31st, 1914.

Population.

I have estimated the population of the District to the middle of the present year at 24,958.

Births and Birth-rate.

During the year 853 births were registered in the district, viz. :—432 males and 421 females, giving an annual birth-rate of 34.1 per thousand.

There were eight births inwardly transferred, making a total of 861, viz. :—435 males and 426 females, giving a nett birth-rate of 34.5 per thousand.

Of the above 31 were illegitimate (20 males and 11 females). The number of births registered last year was 773, viz. :—379 males and 394 females, with a nett birth-rate of 31.6 per thousand.

The birth-rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year is 23.8 per 1,000.

Deaths and Death-rate.

330 deaths were registered during the year in this district, viz. :—163 males and 167 females, which gives an annual death-rate of 13.2 per thousand.

In addition to the above 48 deaths occurred in public institutions outside the district, viz. :—39 males and 9 females, making a corrected total of 378 deaths, and a nett death-rate of 15.1 per thousand.

No uncertified deaths were registered during the year.

Last year there were 423 deaths, giving a death-rate of 17.2 per thousand.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year is 14.0.

Classification of Deaths According to Age.

Classification of deaths according to ages of deceased persons :—

Under one year	...	...	...	106	
1 year and under 2 years of age			...	28	
2 years	„	5	„	19	
5	„	„	15	„	19
15	„	„	25	„	19
25	„	„	45	„	51
45	„	„	65	„	72
65 years and upwards			...	...	64
					<hr/>
Total				...	378

Infantile Mortality

From the above table it will be seen that out of 378 deaths 106 were in infants under 1 year of age, which gives an infantile mortality rate of 120 per thousand births. The rate for last year was 186 per 1,000 births.

The rate for the whole of England and Wales is 105 per 1,000 births.

Various Causes of Infantile Deaths.

The various causes of infantile deaths under one year of age were as follows :—

Whooping Cough	...	...	7
Diphtheria	...	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis		...	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases		...	1
Convulsions	...	...	8
Laryngitis	...	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	6
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	32
Suffocation	...	...	2
Atelectasis	...	...	2
Congenital Debility and Malformations,, including Premature Birth			34
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	1
			<hr/>
Total			106

Various Causes of Deaths.

The various causes of deaths at all ages were as follows :—

Enteric Fever	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	12
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	2
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)			13
Tuberculous Meningitis		...	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases		...	11
Cancer, Malignant Disease		...	22
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	2
Meningitis	...	...	4
Organic Heart Disease		...	27
Bronchitis	...	...	27
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	42
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs			4

Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	40
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	2
Cirrhosis of the Liver	...	3
Alcoholism	...	1
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	8
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	6
Congenital Debility and Malforma- tion, including Premature Birth		32
Violent Deaths (excluding Suicide)		17
Suicide	...	4
Other Defined Diseases	...	78
		<hr/>
Total	...	378

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.

Sixty-seven deaths were caused by the various Zymotic Diseases as follows :—

Enteric Fever	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	1
Diphtheria	...	1
Influenza	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	12
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	40
		<hr/>
Total	...	67

This gives an annual Zymotic death-rate of 2.7 per 1,000.

Last year the rate was 3.5 per 1,000.

The rate of the whole of England and Wales is 1.2.

Infectious Diseases.

320 cases of Infectious Disease were notified during the year, viz. :—

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	12
Enteric Fever	28
Scarlet Fever	208
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	34
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	25
Erysipelas	7
Poliomyelitis	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5
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Total	320

Last year there were 197 cases of Infectious Disease notified, of which 117 were Scarlet Fever.

From the above table it will be seen that the increase in Infectious Diseases this year, as compared to last, is almost entirely due to the epidemic of Scarlet Fever prevalent, more particularly in the months of January, February, March, May, and July.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

Of the 12 cases of Diphtheria and Membranous Croup notified, 6 were removed to the Joint Hospital, the remaining 7 being isolated and treated at home. The disease resulted in one death.

Enteric Fever.

28 cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year, of which 18 were removed to the Joint Hospital. The disease resulted in 10 deaths. During November and December 11 of these cases were notified, of which 8 were believed to be due to the eating of mussels. Four of these cases unfortunately proved fatal.

I had a specimen of the mussels examined, and the report stated that these were badly contaminated, containing about 5 million B Coli per mussel. *Bacillus Typhosus* could not be found.

In these cases, as in all other notified infectious cases, personal visits were made to each house, so as, if possible, to find out the source of infection. After the removal of the patient to hospital, or on the recovery of the patient, the house, bedding, and clothing were disinfected, also each house was inspected as to its sanitary condition, by your Inspector.

Scarlet Fever.

208 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. The disease was spread over each ward, being most prevalent in the Welbeck, with 113 cases, and the Half Acres with 51 cases.

159 cases were removed to the Joint Hospital, the remaining cases being nursed at home.

Only one death took place from this disease, showing that though the disease was wide-spread, it has not been of a severe type.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis.

Diarrhœa and Enteritis have not been as prevalent as last year; but still this disease has caused 40 deaths and, of these, 32 were in infants under one year of age. There is no doubt that Miss Robertson, the late Assistant Sanitary Inspector, did great good during the time she was with us in advising parents as to cleanliness in regard to food utensils, etc.

When we consider the fact that out of the 106 Infantile deaths which occurred during the year, 32 were due to Diarrhœa and Enteritis, or in other words that 30 per cent. of Infantile deaths were due to this disease, it will be seen that there is still room for considerable improvement.

Erysipelas.

Seven cases of Erysipelas were notified during the year. Two of these proved fatal.

Whooping Cough.

This disease has been very prevalent during the year, being accountable for 12 deaths. Last year there were only 4 fatal cases.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There have been 34 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year, and 25 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis. There is a great increase of cases notified as compared with last year.

Eleven cases were sent to Sanatorium for treatment.

There were 13 deaths due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year, which gives an annual death-rate of .52 per thousand. The rate last year was .69 per thousand.

Seventeen deaths occurred from other forms of Tuberculosis.

Bronchitis.

Bronchitis was responsible for 27 deaths during the year, five of these being in infants under 1 year.

Pneumonia.

There were 42 deaths from Pneumonia during the year, 7 of which were in infants under 1 year.

Influenza.

Influenza was prevalent during the earlier and latter months of the year, being of a mild type. There were 3 deaths from this disease.

Housing.

During the part of the year that I have been your Medical Officer I have made a number of inspections of houses along with your Sanitary Inspector. Some improvements have been carried out and others arranged for. The full details are to be found in Mr. Birtwistle's report under "the Summary of Housing Work, 1914."

A few "back-to-back" houses have been converted into through houses; but I would point out that in some cases this action will lead to the keeping of lodgers, seeing that the housing accommodation in your district is at present so insufficient. However, I trust your scheme for building houses for the working-classes will soon be commenced.

The street improvement is only going on slowly, but I hope that next year your Council will be able to accelerate this most desirable work.

The Sanitary Inspector has made a full report of the work done during the year, and here I should like to take the opportunity of testifying to the efficient way in which he has always performed his duties.

**Scavenging.
Department.**

There are now in your district 2,464 privies with covered middens, 8 with open middens, and 48 with pail or tub closets, also 44 waste-water closets, which latter I should be glad to see done away with, and ordinary water closets put in. There have been during the year 67 privies converted into water closets and 8 tippers changed to water closets. Six of these were in the boys' department at Welbeck Street School. Also 23 additional water closets have been added to existing property, and 48 water closets provided for new houses, which is certainly the right and only system to press forward.

The ashpits and privy middens require very close attention to keep them in anything like a sanitary condition.

Water Supply.

The supply is through the Wakefield Corporation, and this year there has been improved pressure. The water is of good quality.

Milk Supply.

The district gets its supply from dairies, milk shops, cow-keepers, and milk purveyors.

We have now only 2 registered cow-sheds, 2 cow-keepers, and 2 milk-sellers who are also cow-keepers, in the district. There are 24 purveyors of milk for the District.

The premises are frequently inspected, and one of the cow-sheds has had some alterations done, but more should be pressed forward next year.

There has only been one case of milk adulteration during the year.

Slaughter Houses.

There are 16 licensed slaughter-houses in the district. One will be done away with, and this will be replaced by a new one sanctioned by your Council, as there is no public slaughter-house in the district.

In some situations these slaughter-houses are quite close to dwellings, and some open into the back-yards of neighbouring houses. This cannot in any way be satisfactory, and the impression made on the minds of young children must be to their disadvantage.

Inspections both of the slaughter-houses and markets are frequently made, and when food, before being offered for sale, has been shown to be unfit for human consumption, it has been readily handed over for destruction.

Bakehouses.

There are now 18 bakehouses in the district, of which 9 are domestic workshop bakehouses, all which have frequently been inspected and found clean.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are now 4 common lodging-houses in the district, registered to accommodate 190 persons. These houses have been regularly inspected, and attention called to any neglect when needful.

Factories and Workshops Act.

There are now 143 premises on the register, and these have been regularly inspected and any defects remedied. In three cases defects are now being put right.

Housing and Town Planning Act.

Under this Act 126 houses have been inspected; 4 were found satisfactory and 122 not reasonably fit for human habitation. Six of these were closed, and notices given for 116, when 22 were made satisfactory and 4 were pulled down, leaving a larger number still to be dealt with in the future.

Public Health Laboratory.

The Bacteriological Laboratory at the County Hall, when required, performs the bacteriological examinations of specimens sent for this district.

Notification of Births Act.

Miss Robertson was with us up to November last. She did very useful work amongst the Infants in connection with the Notification of Births Act.

After this date, she, having accepted another appointment elsewhere, we were without an assistant sanitary inspector for the rest of the year.

I append Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4 to this report.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM KEMP.

March 26th, 1915.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Name of District—CASTLEFORD URBAN.

YEAR	Popula- tion esti- mated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett.				of Non- residents register'd in the District. †	of Resi- dents not register'd in the District. †	Under 1 Year.		At all Ages.	
			Num- ber. †	Rate.					Number *	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number *	Rate.
I	2		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1909	20,063	763	763	38'0	344	17'1	...	11	124	162	355	17'6
1910	20,389	777	777	38'1	296	14'5	...	16	104	133	312	15'3
1911	23,244	756	760	32'6	348	14'9	1	38	116	152	385	16'5
1912	23,815	825	828	34'7	229	12'5	2	49	96	115	346	14'5
1913	24,457	762	773	31'6	382	15'0	3	44	144	186	423	17'2
1914	24,958	853	861	34'5	330	13'2	...	48	104	120	378	15'1

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)—564.

Total population at all ages—23,101.
 Number of inhabited houses—4,575
 Average number of persons per house—5. } At Census of 1911.

TABLE II.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1914.

Name of District—CASTLEFORD URBAN.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.						Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							Carlton Ward	Hightown Ward	Half Acres Ward	Redhill Ward	Welbeck Ward	Wheldale Ward	
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwd's							
Small-pox ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (in- cluding Mem- branous croup)	12	1	7	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Erysipelas ...	7	...	...	...	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	208	1	35	132	36	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Enteric fever ...	28	...	...	3	3	15	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ophthalmia															
Neonatorum ...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary															
Tuberculosis ...	34	...	1	2	10	17	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	25	5	8	9	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals ...	320	12	52	150	54	40	13	1	29	37	51	37	113	52	194

Isolation Hospital—Normanton and District Joint Hospital. Aketon.

Sanatoria—Cardigan Sanatorium, Wakefield

TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1913.

Name of District—CASTLEFORD URBAN.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District								
		All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and up- wards
All causes	{ Certified (c) . . . { Uncertified ...	378 Nil	106	28	19	19	19	51	72	64
Enteric Fever	... ..	10	...	...	...	...	2	3	5	...
Small-pox	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	... ..	12	6	2	4	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	... ..	3	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Erysipelas	... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	... ..	13	...	...	...	2	3	5	2	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	... ..	6	...	...	1	3	1	1	...	...
Other Tuberculous diseases	... ..	11	6	2	1	1	1	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	... ..	22	...	...	...	...	1	2	14	5
Rheumatic Fever	... ..	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Meningitis	... ..	4	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	... ..	27	...	...	...	3	2	6	14	2
Bronchitis	... ..	27	5	3	2	...	1	1	7	8
Pneumonia (all forms)	... ..	42	7	11	4	4	1	5	7	3
Other diseases of respiratory organs	... ..	4	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	... ..	40	31	6	2	1	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	... ..	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Alcoholism	... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's Disease	... ..	8	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	1
Puerperal fever	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Partu- rition	... ..	6	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	... ..	32	32	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	... ..	17	2	1	...	3	3	3	4	1
Suicides	... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1
Other Defined Diseases	... ..	78	13	2	2	...	2	6	11	42
Diseases ill-defin'd or unknwn	... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes	... ..	378	106	28	19	19	19	51	72	64

Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District—Nil

Nett Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths Under 1 Year
ALL CAUSES	{ Certified ... Uncertified...	18 Nil	10	7	4	39	20	20	15	12	106
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	1	...	7
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis } (b)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Convulsions ...	...	1	...	2	2	5	2	...	1	...	8
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	2	...	...	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	1	6
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	9	10	5	6	31
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Malformations } (c)	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
Premature Birth ..	...	14	3	1	...	18	...	..	..	...	18
Atrophy, Debility and } Marasmus	...	2	5	2	1	10	3	1	...	...	14
Other causes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Totals ...	...	18	10	7	4	39	20	20	15	12	106

Nett Births in { legitimate, 830. Nett Deaths in the { legitimate infants, 103.
the year { illegitimate, 31. year of { illegitimate infants, 3.

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